

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT:CYPRUS: STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S COMMENTS

ON SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH CONGRESSIONAL

DELEGATION, FEBRUARY 1, 1975

FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY'S 1 1/4 HOUR MEETING, FEBRUARY 1,
ON THE CYPRUS SITUATION WITH SENATOR EAGLETON AND
REPRESENTATIVES BRADEMAS, ROSENTHAL AND SARBANES, STATE
DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT ANDERSON MADE THE FOLLOWING
COMMENTS TO REPORTERS:

QUOTE: THE SECRETARY HAD A FRUITFUL, AMICABLE MEETING. HE
CONSIDERS THESE REPRESENTATIVES FROM CONGRESS VERY SERIOUS
MEN, AND HE RESPECTS THEIR VIEWS.

"REGARDING THE AMENDMENT, ONCE ONE ACKNOWLEDGES WHAT IS
IN THE AMENDMENT AND WHAT ARE SET DOWN AS CRITERIA, ONE
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CAN NOT REPORT SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS

OR COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW AS STIPULATED.

"ON BRIEFING THE CONGRESSMEN ON WHERE MATTERS STAND, THE SECRETARY DID REPORT THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME PROGRESS BUT THAT THIS NEGOTIATION IS A LONG PROCESS. THE SECRETARY DID POINT OUT THAT IT IS HIS PROFOUND CONVICTION THAT THE UNITED STATES PROVIDES MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY IN

THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES AND WESTERN SECURITY, AND THAT IF THIS IS CUT IT WILL BE A SERIOUS SETBACK FOR OUR SECURITY INTERESTS AND POSSIBLY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS.

"NOW THERE'S ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO SAY WITH REGARD TO MY BRIEFING YESTERDAY. SOMETHING I SAID THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN MISINTERPRETED. I JUST WANTED TO SAY ON THE RECORD THAT MY REMARKS DID NOT MEAN OR IMPLY THAT WE HAD DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY WITH THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. AND I CERTAINLY DID NOT MEAN TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE STATING THE VIEW OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION. OBVIOUSLY THIS IS NOT FOR US TO DO. UNQUOTE.

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